

INTELLOFA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

8 AUG 51

SUBJECT North Korean Treatment of Prisoners
in Manpojin

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. Many of the important Republic of Korea figures who were caught or picked up by the North Koreans [redacted] were confined in Seoul in West Gate and Mapo jails and in a preliminary interrogation office in the third block of Chungjong Avenue. A group of these persons, numbering approximately 4,000, were removed from Seoul and started north under the command of CHI Myok (朴 昌), deputy chief of the Detective Office of the Seoul State Security Detachment; CHIANG So-yin (姜 素尹), one of his section chiefs; and PAK Kon-ung (朴 建雄), a member of the Seoul Detachment who had served on the north-south cooperation committee. The prisoners were escorted by a company of North Korean soldiers. Because of disturbed conditions en route, some prisoners were shot and others managed to escape, until the remaining, about 3,000 persons, were fastened together in groups of seven or eight. They went north through Tongduchon, Chorwon, Tosan, Sibyon-ni, Singye, Suan, Sangwon, Pyongyang, Sunchon, Kaechon, Huichon, and Kanggye and arrived at Manpojin [redacted] 50X1-HUM
2. In Manpojin, most of the prisoners were put into the local penitentiary, but some of the most important were sent across the Yalu River and entrusted to the Manchuria Public Security police.* Some of the prisoners were later moved from Manpojin to a town beyond a hill to the southwest and others were quartered in civilian houses in a village about a mile east of Manpojin. These were all guarded by State Security police. They were not strictly confined and could move about the town under guard, but they received no news and no periodicals. 50X1-HUM
3. [redacted] they were still wearing thin summer clothes. When they first arrived in the town they all looked ragged and unkempt, with worn-out shoes, and they had difficulty moving. In the detention houses, they received five hop** of rice as a ration and were permitted to obtain more from the community if they could. The prisoners were being given courses by their North Korean custodians on international relations and the Communist viewpoint. 50X1-HUM
4. Among the persons seen in Manpojin [redacted] were the following: 50X1-HUM

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KIM Kyu-sik (金奎植)*** and AN Chae-hong (安在鴻)*** moderates.

CHO Man-ku (趙晩九)*** and OH Hwang-sop (嚴恒燮)*** of the Korea Independent Party.

KIM Yal-su (金若水)***

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6. In addition to the Koreans, there were about 30 American war prisoners held in Manpojin for interrogation by the State Security Bureau. These prisoners were usually not well treated until they reached the interrogation center, but there they were slightly better off. They were interrogated generally at night in the State Security office in Manpojin. The interrogation team included a Soviet civilian adviser, unidentified, and the following Koreans:

KIM Chun-sam (金春三), chief of the State Security Bureau Third Office.

KIM Tong-su (金潤濤), deputy chief of the Third Office.***

SONG (成), English-language interpreter; age 32; graduate of a college in Seoul; one year at KIM Il-song University in Pyongyang after 1945.

HA (康), captain in the North Korean army, interpreter; native of Namwon, South Cholla; distant relative of HONG Myong-hi (洪命喜); sent to South Korea by the Democratic Independence Party before the North Korean invasion in June 1950 in connection with the Fatherland Unification Democratic Front and fled back north

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7. The American and other non-Korean war prisoners began to receive indoctrination about October 1950. The program of indoctrination is based on queries to the prisoners as to what they think are the objectives of the war and for what purpose they think they are making great sacrifices. The North Korean intention is to make the prisoners realize that their struggle is useless and is against the interests of the people. The State Security Bureau believes this approach is effective.

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8. In the indoctrination sessions, negro and white prisoners are kept separate. A large number of the negroes, according to State Security Bureau statements, volunteered that they understood the situation without indoctrination and offered to go to the front to fight against white imperialism, some in the army and some as espionage agents. State Security Bureau officials stated that good results had been achieved by the use of "converted" negro prisoners.

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** Comment. A hop is .13 liter.

*** Comment. The following have been previously reported:

AN Chae-hong was reported in Manchuria in a camp in



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CHO Wan-ku remained in Seoul under the Communists 



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KIM Kyu-sik was reported in a camp in Manchuria 


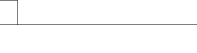
KIM Tong-su was a member of the North Korean Political Operations Unit
in Seoul 

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OM Hang-sop 

***  Comment. KIM Yak-su (and others) was convicted 

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 of part in a Communist conspiracy. 

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When the Communists entered Seoul 

KIM Yak-su was in the (Seoul) West Gate Penitentiary, and was released
by the Communists. He was reported to have been active in their behalf
throughout their occupation of Seoul.